



# WYOMING DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

## Policy and Procedure #4.337

### Oral Care

Page 1 of 4

<b>Authority:</b> Wyoming Statute(s): 25-1-104; 25-1-105  ACA Standard(s): 4-4360-R NCCHC Standard(s): P-E-06	<b>Effective Date:</b> July 30, 2015 <b>Revision/Review History:</b> 07/01/14 07/01/13 07/25/12  <b>Summary of Revision/Review:</b> Updates existing policy pursuant to annual review.
<b>Cross Reference of Policy:</b>	<b>Supersedes Existing Policy :</b>
<b>Approved:</b> R.O. Lampert Robert O. Lampert, Director	
7-23-15 Date	

**APPROVED FOR INMATE DISTRIBUTION**

### REFERENCE

1. ATTACHMENTS
2. OTHER – None Noted



**I. PURPOSE**

- A. Provision of Oral Care.** The purpose of this policy and procedure is to provide for oral care (*i.e.*, dental) services for Wyoming Department of Corrections (WDOC) inmates.

**II. POLICY**

- A. Access to Oral Care.** It is the policy of the Wyoming Department of Corrections that inmates shall be provided oral care, under the direct supervision of a Dentist licensed in Wyoming. This shall include timely and immediate access for urgent or painful conditions.

**III. DEFINITIONS**

- A. Oral Care:** Instruction in oral hygiene, examination, and treatment of dental problems.
- B. Oral Screening:** Visual observation of teeth and gums and notation of abnormality and referral to a dentist.
- C. Oral Treatment:** Range of services that are necessary for mastication and maintaining health.

**IV. PROCEDURE**

- A. Scope of Service.** Routine and emergency dental care shall be provided to each offender under the direction and supervision of a licensed dentist. WDOC shall provide a defined scope of available dental services, including emergency dental care, which includes the following: (ACA 4-4360 Revised; NCCHC P-E-06)
- 1.** A dental screening (excluding intra-system transfers) upon admission by a qualified health care professional or health-trained personnel;
  - 2.** A full dental examination (excluding intra-system transfers) by a dentist within thirty (30) days of admission;
  - 3.** Oral hygiene, oral disease education, and self-care instructions provided by a qualified health care provider within thirty (30) days of admission;



<b>WYOMING DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS</b>	<b>Policy and Procedure #4.337</b>	<b>Page 3 of 4</b>
		<b>Oral Care</b>

4. A defined charting system that identifies the oral health condition and specifies the priorities for treatment by category is completed; and
  - i. Documentation of dental examinations plans of care and treatments are maintained in the health record.
5. Consultation and referral to dental specialists, including oral surgery, when, in the judgment of the dentist, it is necessary.

**B. Oral Treatment and Care**

1. Oral treatment, not limited to extractions, is provided according to a treatment plan based upon a system of established priorities for care when, in the dentist's judgment, the inmate's health would otherwise be adversely affected.
  - i. Extractions are performed in a manner consistent with community standards of care and adhering to the American Dental Association's clinical guidelines.
  - ii. Radiographs are appropriately used in the development of the treatment plan.
2. Fluoride supplements should be provided through drinking water and or dental cleaning agents.
3. Where oral care is provided on site, infection control procedures are followed.

**C. Dental Prosthetics**

1. Obturators, removable, complete and partial dental prosthesis are provided when determined to be medically necessary, this includes replacements.
2. Dental prosthetics are provided when the physical health of the patient would otherwise be adversely affected.
3. An evaluation of nutritional deficiencies will be conducted, if nutritional status and health are compromised special diets and supplements will be considered.
4. It should be noted, most foods are easily digested with minimal mastication and there is little likelihood dentures will ameliorate pre-existing conditions.



5. WDOC relies on the expertise of the contracted dental provider to determine medical necessity for dental prosthesis.
6. Dental prosthesis is not provided for cosmetic purposes or to improve appearance.

**V. TRAINING POINTS**

- A. How many days after admission should an inmate receive a dental screening?
- B. How many days after admission should an inmate receive a full dental examination?